

# Final Report

to the

## Finnish Embassy-Beijing

ཕྱིན་ལན་གཞུང་ཚབ་ཁང་ལ་སྤྱིངས་པའི་ལས་གཞིའི་མཆུག་མཐའི་སྒྲན་ཁུ།

**Boarding Facilities: Taiga Long གཏེར་ཁ་ལུང་། 铁尔楞 Tibetan Primary School**

### What?

- Finnish Embassy: 1 students' canteen, 5 dormitory rooms, teachers' quarters, 1 toilet
- Xunhua ཡུ་ཁྱི། 循化 Education Bureau: 2 classrooms & 20 sets of beds

### Cost?

- Finnish Embassy: 202,500 RMB
- Local Contribution: 91,000 RMB

**When?** April-November 2007

*Submitted by*

Lijia ལྷ་ཁྱེ། and Kevin Stuart

*November 4, 2007*

## Photographs



The Taiga Long School's new Tibetan style buildings include 1 canteen, 5 dormitory rooms, 2 teachers' quarters, 2 toilets, and 2 classrooms.



New toilet funded by the Finnish Embassy in Beijing



The back of the new Tibetan styled buildings: local stones are the main building materials.



The buildings are decorated in a Tibetan traditional style.



Building front.



Girls from Nyamo ཉམོ་ཕྱེ་བ། Village (7 km away) and Omar Village འོ་འ་དམར་ཕྱེ་བ། (6 km away) in their new dorms that were funded by the Finnish Embassy in Beijing. The beds were provided by the Xunhua County Education Bureau.



Drolma Tso ལྷོ་ལ་མ་མཚོ།, a girl from Omar Village, is happy because she will no longer have to walk to and from the school each day beginning March 1, 2008.



Boys in their new dorm that was funded by the Finnish Embassy in Beijing



Girls in front their new dorm



Grade 4 students in a new classroom.



Walls are 0.8 meters thick.



Young local Tibetan builders at work.



The builder.



The Xunhua Education Bureau and the project assistant inspect the building foundation quality.



Metals bars were used to make building beams.



Beams under construction



Mr. Ari Siren from the Finnish Embassy in Beijing visits the school.



Xunhua County Education Bureau vice-leader, Mr. Ari Siren from the Finnish Embassy, the Daowei ཇོ་ཤེས། Township Education Commission leader, and the project manager (Lijia).



Mr. Siren and his wife present gifts to students in Taiga Long School



Mr. Siren presents gifts to teachers.



Teachers and students with Mr. Siren and his wife.

Dear Finnish Embassy,

We are pleased to report the successful completion of the Taiga Long Tibetan Primary School project. Your contribution of 202,500RMB allowed for the construction of one canteen, five dormitory rooms, two teachers' quarters and a toilet. We also received financial support from Xunhua County Education Bureau to build two classrooms and purchase twenty sets of beds for the students. Local villagers leveled the schoolyard and are planning to build school surrounding walls in March 2008. As this suggests, the project was done by various government parties, the local villagers, and the Finnish Embassy working well together.

The rooms were built in a traditional Tibetan style by Tibetan builders and villagers from the local township. Local materials and labor were utilized consequently, the Finnish cash contribution benefited the local community because it stayed within the local community. Furthermore, the project not only benefited local education and the local economy, but also serves as a sterling and highly public example of the value of Tibetan traditional building techniques--an act of cultural preservation.

The dormitory rooms and canteen will begin to be utilized in March 2008 because they were not completed at the beginning of the term that began in August 2007.

The project evaluation done in October shows that:

- the project provided adequate dorm room space. Students from distant villagers will no longer have to walk to school each day. These students will now have more time to spend on school work.
- there are now enough classrooms for all the grades. This contrasts sharply with the original problem of certain classes being conducted outside in the winter because of a lack of classroom space.
- improved school conditions will attract more qualified teachers to the school to teach.
- building schools in a traditional Tibetan style is practical way to preserve and develop Tibetan traditional architecture.

Finally, on behalf of the students, teachers, and villagers we, the project implementing agency, extend our deepest appreciation to you for your generous contribution and support.

Yours sincerely,

Lijia & Kevin Stuart

<b>Project Title:</b> Boarding Facilities for Taiga Long Tibetan Primary School				
<b>Province:</b> Qinghai མཚོ་སྐོན། 青海	<b>Prefecture:</b> Haidong Region 海东地区	<b>County:</b> Xunhua Salar Autonomous County 循化撒拉族自治县	<b>Township:</b> Daowei Tibetan Township 道帏藏族乡	<b>Village(s):</b> Taiga Long Village 铁尕楞村
<b>Finnish Embassy Contribution:</b> 202,500 RMB		<b>Local Contribution:</b> 91,000 RMB		<b>Total Project Cost:</b> 293,500 RMB
<b>Implementing Agency:</b> Lijia and Kevin Stuart				
<b>Address:</b> Nationalities' Teachers College, Qinghai Normal University, Xining ൬ ཨིང་ཁྱེད་ སྤྱི་ཁྱེད་ སྤྱི་ཁྱེད་ སྤྱི་ཁྱེད་ སྤྱི་ཁྱེད་ 西宁 City, Qinghai Province, PR China				<b>Postal Code:</b> 810008
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## A. PROJECT BACKGROUND

### 1. Summary of Project Objectives & Background

The project focused on improving local education through improved school conditions and preserving Tibetan traditional architecture by involving more Tibetan young people in project building activities.

Specific objectives:

1. Provide boarding facilities for students by building five dorms and a canteen.
2. Reduce the time students spent on their daily trek from home to school and increase students' study time by creating boarding conditions at the school.
3. Reduce dangers students encounter during their daily trek.
4. Improve safety for both teachers and students by improving classroom conditions.
5. Attract better and more educated teachers to the school by building more teachers' quarters/offices and improving school conditions.
6. Preserve and develop Tibetan traditional architecture.

7. Improve Tibetan young villagers' skill in building to generate family income in the long run.

**Background of the project:**

Prior to project completion, the school faced such problems as insufficient classrooms, lack of dorms that meant students had to make a daily trek from home to the school, lack of quarters for the teachers, and an unstable toilet that was increasingly a safety hazard. Considering these problems, the Finnish Embassy contributed 202,500 RMB to improve school conditions. With this contribution, 1 student and teacher's canteen, 5 dormitory rooms, 2 teachers' quarters and 2 toilets were built. The Xunhua County Education Bureau provided 57,000 RMB to build 2 classrooms and purchase 20 sets of beds to place in the new dorms for students from distant villages. The Bureau also provided 4,000 RMB for project management expenses. Furthermore, considering the future development of the school and convenience of the students, the new school was relocated 1 km west of the original school site thus making it the center for all the students. In the new location, there is plenty of space to build a sports ground and for other activities that were unavailable in the old school. In addition, the villagers provided land for a new school site and also leveled the new schoolyard. Next March, the villagers will build school surrounding walls under the implementing agency and the Xunhua Education Bureau's supervision.

Lijia and his project assistant, Mr. Cairang Ben, managed all project activities under the general guidance of Dr. Kevin Stuart. According to the signed agreement between the Xunhua Education Bureau and Lijia, the former was responsible for inspecting building quality at different stages throughout the construction process.

A local Tibetan construction team built the Finnish Embassy supported buildings under the supervision of Xunhua County Education Bureau. Mr. Lijia's assistant visited the project site regularly with the Xunhua Education Bureau and the Daowei Township Education Commission to inspect and monitor project process and quality of the buildings.

**2. Local Beneficiaries**

98 students (43 girls) and 7 teachers are immediate direct beneficiaries. The project evaluation shows 120 students will directly benefit in August 2008. The indirect beneficiaries are 1,393 villagers from four Tibetan villages in the area. All beneficiaries are Tibetans.

**3. Other local organizations cooperating on the project(if available):** Xunhua Education Bureau and Daowei Township Education Commission

**4. Contribution from Beneficiaries/ Villagers**

- Villagers provided labor (8,000RMB in value) to level the school yard
- Villagers will build school surrounding walls with labor that may be valued at 40,000RMB

## B. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

### 1. Narrative summary of project activities and achievements

After signing the contract with the Finnish Embassy on March 26, 2007, we carried out the following activities:

**March 28** Signed an agreement with the Xunhua Education Bureau to clarify their responsibilities and guarantee that they would provide their contribution on time. The project assistant, Mr. Cairang Ben, and Xunhua Education Bureau representatives participated.

**April 18** The new school location and the construction site were designated by the Xunhua Education Bureau and the project assistant with participation of villagers and the Daowei Education Commission.

**April 19 to 28** Villagers leveled the ground at the new school location. The project assistant and the Xunhua Education Bureau inspected villagers' work.

**May 16** Construction work began. Construction stones and other materials were delivered to the school. The construction group and village project committee participated.

**June 7** The foundations were completed and inspected by the Xunhua Education Bureau, the project assistant, the Daowei Education Commission and village leaders.

**July 17** The stone walls of one building were completed while beams for the other building were under construction. The Xunhua Education Bureau, the project assistant, the Daowei Education Commission, and village leaders inspected both the walls and the beams.

**August 1** The buildings were completed and inspected by the Xunhua Education Bureau, the project assistant, the Daowei Education Commission and village leaders assessed the buildings.

**August 20** The buildings were decorated and painted; The lights and switches were installed. Xunhua Education Bureau, Mr. Lijia and the project assistant, Daowei Education Commission and village leaders held the final inspection of the buildings and handed over the qualified buildings to the school and villagers to use.

**September 7** Xunhua Education Bureau, Mr. Lijia, Daowei Education Commission, school teachers and village leaders held a discussion on such matters of how and when to complete the school surrounding walls, the number of students would board in the school from next March, the project sustainability system and management regulations.

**September 20** Mr. Siren Ari from the Embassy in Beijing visited the new school and met with teachers and village representatives.

**October 15** The project assistant and the Daowei Education Commission evaluated the project at the school and in the villages.

**October 20** Mr. Lijia and the project assistant worked on the final report

## 2. Problems/Challenges

Two challenges were encountered:

- 1) Building the school surrounding walls. Since the buildings were built at a new location, all-new school surrounding walls are required that will involve a large number of local people. After a long discussion with villagers and schoolteachers, it was decided that Marcy 2008 was the best time. This is before many villagers leave the local area to earn cash income.
- 2) Students will not board at the school until March 2008, though the original plan called for students to begin boarding in August 2007. Frequent rain during project implementation resulted in the project being completed later than anticipated. In turn, the school failed to receive boarding fees for the students from the local government.

## C. PROJECT RESULTS/IMPACT

### 1. A comparison of the school conditions between pre-project and post-project

Pre-Project	Currently
There were no student boarding facilities nor a canteen for students consequently, students had to make a daily trek to and from the school.	There are now an adequate number of Tibetan style dormitory rooms for the students. The time the students save in trekking to and from the school can now be used on study.
There were not enough teachers' quarters; 2 teachers had to share 1 small room which they used as a bedroom and office. Such conditions negatively affected teacher attitude toward teaching and the school in general.	Each teacher now has 1 room. This has encouraged and the teachers.
Classrooms were lacking and some classes were held outside in winter, which was very difficult for young children.	There are enough classrooms for all the students. Two grades have classes in the new classrooms built during the project with funds provided by the Xunhua Education Bureau.
The old toilet was not in use because of danger of near-collapse. This resulted in human excrement and urine being everywhere on the school grounds.	There is a well-designed toilet that has much improved school sanitation.
Being late to class in the morning was very common because students had to trek a long way.	Beginning in March 2007, students will attend class on time because they no longer will have to make a long trek from their home to school.
There were only 84 students	There are 98 students this semester and teachers expect 120 students in August 2008.
No local villagers had experience in Tibetan traditional stone construction work.	20 young villages from local villages have experience in such traditional construction techniques and modern construction work as concrete floor paving.

## 2. Project and Evaluation on project results and impact:

Assistant project manager, Mr. Cairang Ben, regularly visited the project to monitor its progress. The Xunhua Education Bureau, Daowei Education Commission and the project assistant supervised and inspected the steps of construction to ensure quality; furthermore, the project assistant contacted the local authorities to encourage them to carry out their responsibilities in a timely manner. On October 15, the project assistant and Daowei Education Commission evaluated project achievements, during which they interviewed village leaders, school teachers and older students and local officials to compare the school condition before and after the project. Additionally, school management was also discussed.

### D. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

#### Project Management Committee

The project was managed at various level as below:

Dr. Kevin Stuart provided general supervision. Mr. Lijia and Mr. Cairang Ben ཆེ་རིང་འབྲུམ། were responsible for project implementation activities and coordinating between the different groups at the local level. The Xunhua Education Bureau and Daowe Township Education Commission were responsible for inspecting construction quality with Lijia and Cairang Ben; they also were responsible for encouraging villagers to complete their contributions.

At the end of the project, Lijia and Cairang Ben inspected the new buildings with the Xunhua Education Bureau and the Daowei Township Education Office. An evaluation of project results and impact was conducted among the villagers, students, and teachers as well as local officials. After project completion, the new buildings were handed over to the Xunhua Education Bureau and Daowei Education Commission, whose responsibility it is to maintain the buildings.

### E. SUSTAINABILITY/ FUTURE MANAGEMENT

#### Plans for Future Management and Analysis of Sustainability of Project Results

The implementing agency will inspect the project once yearly and the local project committee and Xunhua Education Bureau will check it twice a year. If there are any problems within five years with the buildings the construction group will repair it. After five years, Xunhua Education Bureau will repair the buildings when the need arises.

### F. FINANCES/ EXPENSES

**Project actual cost: 293,500 RMB**

**Finnish Embassy Contribution: 202,500 RMB**

**Local Contribution: 91,000 RMB**

#### Finnish Embassy Contribution

Receipts No.	Description	Total Cost (RMB)
1	1). Students and teachers' cafeteria (750 RMB/m <sup>2</sup> x 70m <sup>2</sup> ) 2). Dormitory rooms (750 RMB/m <sup>2</sup> x 28m <sup>2</sup> x 5rooms) 3). Teachers' quarters (750rmb x 22m <sup>2</sup> x 2rooms) 4). Toilets (500 RMB/m <sup>2</sup> x 24m <sup>2</sup> )	202,500

<b>Local Contribution</b>		
Submitted to Xunhua Education Bureau	Classrooms (750 RMB/m <sup>2</sup> x 38m <sup>2</sup> x 2 )	57,000
n/a	Beds for students (20 double beds x 200 RMB)	4,000
n/a	Management fee	4,000
n/a	Facilities for the new cafeteria	6,000
n/a	Management expenses	4,000
<b>Villagers' Contribution</b>		
n/a	Level school yard (25 people x 20RMB x 8days)	4,000
	build school walls (40 villagers/day x 20 RMB x 15 days)	12,000
<p><b>1. Budget Changes</b> No differences between the planned budget and actual one.</p> <p><b>2. Leftover Funds</b> There were no leftover funds. 528.64RMB in interest payment will be used on the final report and follow-up project management.</p>		

<b>G. PUBLIC AWARENESS &amp; FINNISH IDENTITY</b>
The Finnish Embassy's contribution was explained to the villagers, students and teachers during various meetings, as well as to Xunhua County leaders and other involved people. A plaque detailing the Finnish Embassy's contribution has been placed on a new building wall for public view. Xunhua Education Bureau also reported this contribution during a county-wide education meeting .

Prepared by: Lijia & Cairang Ben  
Position: Project Managers

Previewed by: Dr. Kevin Stuart  
Position: General Supervisor


Date Final Report Submitted: November 3, 2007

## Receipt

### 收据

今收到由芬兰驻华大使馆赞助的循化县道帏乡铁尕楞村寄宿制小学项目（5间宿舍，1间食堂，2间老师宿舍，2间厕所）材料费和劳务费共计贰拾万贰仟伍佰元整（202500rmb）。

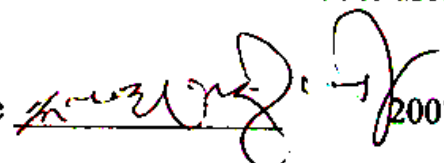
收款人:尕藏久美

签名  2007.10.20

## Receipt

I certify that I, Kalsangjimei, foreman of the Taiga Long School project (5 dormitory rooms, 1 canteen, 2 teachers' quarters and 2 toilets) sponsored by the Finish Embassy in Beijing, received 202500 *rmb* for construction materials and labor used in this project.

Name: Kalsangjimei

Signature  2007.10.20